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THE NOVEL AND THE LIBRARY.

The great preponderance of works of fiction among the books drawn from public libraries has always been a subject of much concern to librarians and other men engaged in the business of public education. It comes up for discussion perennially, and various are the suggestions made for the correction of what is generally recognized as an evil. While there is nothing to say against the practice of reading fiction, abstractly considered, there is much to say against the novel-reading habit which seems to be fastened upon the majority of those who use our public libraries. When the statistics of circulation show that works of fiction constitute from fifty to eighty per cent of the books that are taken for home reading, there is certainly some reason to think that the library is regarded as a source of entertainment rather than of public education, and some reason to question the wisdom of taxing the people at large for such a purpose. Even if careful consideration of the whole subject convinces us that a library, put chiefly to such uses, is better than no library at all, and still on the whole a worthy object of public support, it is certainly obligatory upon those who control the supply of free books to use all possible vigilance in minimizing the evil of thoughtless reading, and in encouraging the literary and studious tastes of readers.

Very often the statistics themselves disguise the evil which they cannot wholly conceal. A library which reports sixty per cent of fiction among the books circulated will very likely report also from ten to fifteen per cent of juvenile literature (most of which is fiction), and from five to ten per cent of books in foreign languages, of which novels form the larger fraction. Some librarians regard this condition of affairs with complacency, and, while seizing every opportunity that is offered to encourage the reading of serious books, still hold to the view which was advocated by the late W. F. Poole — the view that most of these novel-readers would read nothing at all unless they could get what they wanted, and that it is well for them to acquire the reading habit even if a wiser judgment disapproves of their habitual selection of books. There is much to be said for this view, and for its corollary that the

exercise of the reading habit in any form tends to bring about a gradual elevation of literary taste, especially if the reader be supplied all along with gentle and unobtrusive incitements to the acquisition of better standards and broader interests. This sort of stimulus has to be applied tactfully, and it is a distinctive characteristic of the good librarian that he knows how to apply it with judgment and without ruffling the reader's temper. The natural man, who has outgrown the years of tutelage, resents being practised upon by others for his own good, and, although he may be led to the water, he must be left to believe that he is drinking it of his own volition.

The subject of fiction in the public library has recently come up for renewed discussion in connection with a report from Springfield, Massachusetts, according to which the librarian, during the past four years, has reduced the circulation of fiction by about one-fourth. This may not seem strange news to the general reader, but to those who know anything of library work from its professional side, the report is so startling that it seems almost sensational. One librarian says it is what Lord Dundreary would have called a "staggerer." Experience shows the percentage of fiction to be so nearly uniform from year to year that a change of as little as five per cent would excite comment. Naturally, then, a change (and for the better) of something like five times that percentage is a cause for both surprise and curious interest. By just what means so great a reduction of novel-reading has been brought about we do not know, but so gratifying a result is sure to excite the spirits of both inquiry and emulation in the breasts of librarians all over the country.

There are many devices of the obvious sort for the lowering of the percentage of fiction and the raising of the percentage of serious reading, and these have been used by all good librarians in the United States during the quarter-century that librarianship has been recognized as one of the professions. They include such things as the limited supplying of novels and the liberal supplying of better books, the publication of annotated and descriptive lists upon special subjects, the coöperation of librarians with teachers in the work of the schools, the opening of the library shelves to easy access on the part of the public, and the judicious use of personal counsel on the subject of reading. But there seems to be a rather narrow limit to the efficacy of any of these de-

vices, or of all of them together; if they have proved adequate to effect the reduction reported from Springfield, the case is as surprising as it is exceptional, and few librarians will be hopeful of accomplishing similar results by such means. What we wish now to consider are certain methods of a farther-reaching and more radical sort that have either been put into operation of late years here and there, or that have been suggested by the recent revival of interest in the discussion. The "Saturday Review" of the New York "Times" not long ago invited professional opinions upon this subject, and elicited several suggestions that are deserving of serious consideration.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, who by virtue of his official position is the leader of the profession of librarianship in America, makes a suggestion that may be pronounced radical, but that commands itself to the sober intelligence after the first shock of surprise is over. It is, simply, that no works of fiction be purchased by public libraries for at least a year after publication. Nothing could be more sensible than the following words:

"There is, however, a demand for fiction which I do not believe can legitimately be met by the public library. That is the demand for the latest new novel merely because it is the latest new novel. We all read current novels also and enjoy and profit by them. But the demand for them is largely artificial, for a purpose merely social, and it is apt to be transitory. No free library can meet it adequately, and the attempt to meet it is an expense and annoyance to the reader and expense to itself."

The exclusion of the newest fiction from the library shelves would doubtless occasion a great outcry, but the loss to the public would be more imaginary than real. Every librarian knows how hollow is the pretence of meeting the popular demand for the novels of the day. To supply that demand would entail an expenditure that no librarian could sanction. Take such a novel, for example, as "The Crisis," and such a library, for example, as that of Chicago. Probably five hundred people were daily clamoring for that particular novel during the weeks that immediately followed its publication. To satisfy them, it would have been necessary to purchase several thousands of copies, with the absolute certainty that next year they would be collecting dust upon the shelves, if not actually consigned to the lumber-room. The satisfaction of an ephemeral fancy of this sort is an absolutely illegitimate demand to make upon any public library. The only library that has a right to spend

money in this reckless fashion is the private enterprise of the Mudie type, which exists for the special purpose of catering to the taste of the moment. What such a library as the Chicago institution actually does in the case of a novel like "The Crisis" is to purchase forty or fifty copies of the work, and supply one applicant out of every two or three hundred. "In proposing to supply such a novel," says Mr. Putnam, "the library deludes the public and reduces its capacity for service really serviceable." It does not really supply the demand, and succeeds only in gratifying an occasional applicant at the cost of creating exasperation in the breasts of the thousands who, knowing that the book is in the library, ask for it from day to day until they desist from sheer weariness.

We are inclined to think, on the whole, that every public library would be well-advised in adopting Mr. Putnam's suggestion, thus forcing its patrons to take, as far as the library is concerned, Emerson's well-known advice against reading books that have not kept alive for at least a year. Using "The Crisis" once more for our illustration, it is safe to say that by next summer the demand for that excellent story will have fallen to normal proportions. It will still be asked for by a few people, and it will be as proper to provide copies to be read as it is proper to provide copies of "The Spy." This, of course, presents an extreme case, for, besides the two or three novels that a capricious public marks for its favor every season, there are two or three hundred others of merit sufficient to entitle their claims to be recognized. But the reasoning to be employed is similar in all the cases; the demand for current fiction is essentially temporary and artificial, and it is doubtful if it be the policy of wisdom to put into a public library any books for which there may not be some reasonable demand year after year.

The librarian who is unwilling to make himself disliked by refusing to supply the public with current novels may find a sort of way out of the difficulty by adopting a plan which has already been successfully operated in a few places. This is the plan of opening a special department of new fiction, buying enough books to meet the demand, and making a small charge for their use. The doctrinaire objection that all the services of a public library must be free may be met by stating the obvious fact that this particular service is impossible unless it be made self-supporting. The fee might be a very

small one — much less than that charged by the private libraries — and yet sufficient to make the books thus circulated pay for themselves. The average novel costs the library rather less than one dollar; it may be in constant use for a year or more before it is worn out; if it is made to bring in two cents a week during that year, the transaction will be fair to all parties — no appreciable burden, certainly, upon the reader, and no burden upon the budget except on the score of library service. At the end of the book's career, it will have provided entertainment for possibly fifty families, at practically no cost to the library; it will have paid for itself, and may be thrown away with a good conscience. If the public library is, in any real sense, to provide its patrons with the latest novels, we believe that this is the only legitimate way of doing it. But we are sufficiently tainted with the educational theory of the library to think Mr. Putnam's plan, after all, the one better deserving to be pursued.

The two suggestions thus considered are the only ones that go to the root of the matter. Other suggestions are of the nature of ingenious devices or persuasive methods. One of the best of them is the two-card system which gives every card-holder the right to draw two books at the same time, only one of which may be a work of fiction. This encourages collateral reading of the serious kind, and is said to secure good results. Practical librarians are now generally learning how much good may be done by such things as open shelves, special bibliographies of timely interest, talks with teachers and school children, object-lessons in model collections of standard literature, the encouragement of clubs and study-classes, and the judicious selection of the fiction that is provided for circulation. These means are all praiseworthy, and are, in their aggregate employment, productive of marked benefit. And, in all this discussion, it must not be forgotten that the reading of good fiction is something more than entertainment, that it is a study of one of the great forms of creative literature, and one of the most potent agencies whereby the sympathies may be quickened, the horizon enlarged, the higher interests aroused, and culture attained. We have forever passed the day when thoughtful people could condemn the reading of fiction as such; we have come to understand for good that the best novels are among the best books there are, however we may deprecate the reading of the shallow and sensational sorts of fiction.

**THE PUBLIC LIBRARY:
ITS PURPOSES AND POSSIBILITIES.**

Those who are working for popular education and the betterment of social conditions are again indebted to the Commissioner of Education, who includes in his last annual report a chapter devoted to the statistics of public libraries in the United States. The rapid and greatly accelerating growth which is shown to have taken place since the report of five years ago, in the number of libraries reporting, the number of volumes which have been added, and the work the libraries are accomplishing, comes as a surprise even to those who have been most interested in watching the development of the library movement.

In view of this evidence of material prosperity, and the prominence which has in the past few years been given to the public library, it may not be unprofitable for us to consider what the public library of the present day stands for; what is its aim and purpose; what the place it holds in the civic life of this day, that cities should so readily assume its support; what the meaning of the opportunity it holds which makes it appeal so forcefully to the philanthropist, not only as a means of enriching the daily life of the people, but of giving to the student the means of making individual research, by furnishing the rare and costly collections which are necessary for such work; in short, to consider to what the public library has already attained, and to discover, if we can, to what larger things the spirit which has been moving so mightily in these latter days may be leading us.

The function of the public library is to supply books, for purposes of both entertainment and information, to its readers. It aims to supply the best books to the largest number. It seeks not only to supply the needs of the individual reader, but to supplement all other educational forces of the city and to aid any effort which is made for its good. In its educational work, the city library of to-day parallels the schools, from the kindergarten to the university, and goes beyond the latter in its services to the advanced student and investigator.

The children's rooms in our libraries know no age limit, and welcome the youngest children that are able to use books, or even to enjoy pictures; showing them that a book may be to them a source of delight, rather than a task, and soliciting their interest in its proper care and handling. Each important subject, as history, biography, travel, science, poetry, and even political science, ethics, and religion, is represented by books suitable for younger readers; and this collection is catalogued, classified, numbered, and arranged in a manner similar to that of the main collection. If in addition to this, as is often the case, the holders of juvenile membership cards are allowed to use the main collection, when the time arrives that their membership is transferred to the general cir-

culating department, they are not coming upon unknown ground, but are entering a territory with which they may have already made themselves acquainted, and in which they will find familiar landmarks and guides. The curricula of the public schools are carefully studied, and books which will aid the pupil in enlarging the subject, broadening his horizon, and deepening his interest, are plentifully supplied,—the books recommended for collateral reading being, of course, included in the number.

The education of the individual in the schools and beyond, is comprised in three periods, as follows:

First: That of acquisition alone, in which the text books are descriptive, little more than statements of fact, and the work mainly that of memory.

Second: That of comparison, in which truths and facts are placed in relation to each other and interpreted; the work of the reason and of judgment. The two are not separated by a definite line, the work of acquiring knowledge going on still in the second stage.

Third: That of investigation and original research, whether under the auspices of an institution, or independently. In this the student uses the knowledge already acquired as stepping-stones to discovery in realms still unknown.

In the first stage the library is of value by broadening and presenting in a more attractive way the facts of the text books. As the pupil passes gradually into the second stage, of comparison and interpretation, the value of the library becomes greater, and its use essential to any full understanding of the relations of the subjects under consideration. For work in the third stage the library, the storehouse of all human knowledge, is indispensable. He who would reach out and pluck treasures from the unknown in any field, must first master and plant himself firmly upon that which is known. Dr. Gilman, in describing the function of a university in conserving knowledge and promoting investigation, has happily said that "Libraries and museums are the dwelling places of universities."

While the library is thus the handmaid and helper of the school throughout the entire course, and is the workshop of the advanced student, the investigator and explorer, it has a function of even greater importance for those whose opportunities for education do not go beyond the public schools, and a function which no other institution can so well perform; that is, to continue the education for good citizenship that is begun in the public schools. To the large number,—to the great majority of our boys and girls,—who leave school at the age of fourteen or fifteen, when they are just ready to enter the high school, whose work in school has been largely that of learning the art of reading and of storing their memories with elementary knowledge, whose work has been almost entirely in the first stage of education,—to these the public

library must be high school, college, university ; it must give to them the only opportunity they are likely to have of broadening and increasing their knowledge, of properly relating and interpreting the facts of nature and of life, and making their knowledge a consistent whole instead of a mere collection of isolated facts. This is an additional and still more weighty reason for training children in the use of the library from their earliest school-days ; as, in addition to its immediate advantage in their school work, it will make them acquainted with that institution which must be their main reliance in continuing their education beyond the period of their school life ; and having once tested its usefulness in answering the questions of the schoolroom, they will more readily turn to it for assistance when confronted by the larger problems of life.

The library is in touch with every phase and interest of human life, and may be helpful in all. To the man or woman who is merely breadwinner or homemaker, it offers practical suggestion and helpful information from its store of books on the various arts and handicrafts. In addition to the many books on practical matters which are of general interest and in demand always and everywhere, every library should consider the business interests peculiar to its location, — as shipbuilding, manufactures, mining, agriculture, — and should provide itself with the best literature upon these subjects, to the great practical benefit of those engaged in these occupations. It is a fact that certain towns in this country which have good technical libraries have attained preëminence in certain manufacturing industries, largely due, I believe, to the fact that the library had quietly, year after year, supplied to the workman the best books upon his special work, and thus enabled him to come to his daily task with more exact information and with greater intelligence ; and in this way the libraries have yielded to their cities direct financial returns for the outlay. It is a fact also, to which the records of public libraries generally will bear witness, that books on house-building, home-making, the care of children and of the sick, the household arts and elegancies, are in large and constant demand ; and while it is not possible to measure the results of their use, it is fair to assume that they are doing a great deal toward the making of more comfortable and happy homes. The tendency of the reading habit is toward economy and thrift. A taste for books restrains from unprofitable, expensive, and harmful amusements, and arouses interest in the things that are better worth while. The reading of books for entertainment merely, within reasonable bounds, is a pleasure which is followed by no disagreeable recollections.

The library is not only a direct aid in the arts of life to the individual, but is also helpful in public affairs. The pedagogical department of a city library is the library of city school teachers, and their use of it renders it exceedingly valuable to the

work of the schools. That department which deals with public questions — such as highways, sewers, lighting, car service, police, sanitary and fire protection — is a practical library of information for the municipal authorities upon subjects that are of the greatest importance to the welfare of the city ; and also gives to the private citizen an opportunity to form an opinion as to the conduct of city affairs. Indeed, there is no phase of the work of the library which is of such importance as that of affording to all of our citizens, and to the boys and girls who are preparing for citizenship, an opportunity to fit themselves for their civic duties. An American citizen is called upon to express, at the voting booth and elsewhere, an opinion not only upon municipal questions of vital importance, but, in the wider realm of state and national politics, he must decide upon questions of foreign policy, upon great economic problems upon which the prosperity of the country largely depends, which are complex and difficult and should have careful study. The departments of sociology and history should be of great value to the thoughtful citizen. While the public library cannot lend itself to the propaganda of any particular school of opinion, it is the arena into which all opinions worthy of consideration may enter with the assurance of fair presentation. The public library has already become an important factor in the political education of our citizens, and there are wonderful possibilities for greater development along this same line.

Thus far I have only spoken of the economic and social value of the library, as an aid to the citizen and the city in material interest and in civic duties. But beyond this is its use in the enlarging, the uplifting, the sweetening of the individual life. I need not argue this ; we all recognize the value of good books to the human soul, — of the opportunity they give us of communion with the masters, of realizing the permanent, the eternal, the worthy. Wordsworth has said :

"There is
One great society on earth,
The noble living and the noble dead."

It is not given to many of us to commune familiarly in the flesh with those who are recognized as standing preëminently above their fellows ; but we may from the shelves of our library choose at will our intimate companions from the greatest and noblest of all time, and we may in the solitude of our own rooms commune with them as with familiar friends. A great man once said :

"But when evening falls I go home and enter my study. On the threshold I lay aside my country garments, soiled with mire, and array myself in courtly garb. Thus attired I make my entrance into the ancient courts of the men of old, where they receive me with love, and where I feed upon the food which only is my own and for which I was born. For four hours' space I feel no annoyance, forget all care; poverty can not frighten, nor death appal me."

This realm is the heritage of us all ; but for many

of us, for most of us, indeed, the only way of approach lies through the open alcoves of the public library.

So far as the public library lies parallel to the primary and secondary work in our schools, it receives its support in the same way and for the same reason; namely, that it is educating the younger generation for the duties of citizenship. The same claim may fairly be made for all library work, on the ground that whatever helps a man to do his work more ably and honestly, and to earn a better living for his family,—whatever enables a woman to make a home in which grace and comfort and elegance shall be more abundant,—and whatever instructs them both as to their social relations and civic duties, is beneficial to the State. And the same may be said with almost equal truth of the range of library work which is general and popular; for whatever makes a man better informed, broader in his views, and contributes to his happiness and contentment, will tend to make him a better citizen. The city which spends thirty dollars a year on the elementary education of each of its school children can well afford to spend one dollar per year for each in support of a library to enable them to continue their education.

It is only when we come to that higher range of library work which meets the needs of advanced students and original investigators, which involves the purchase of expensive collections to be used by comparatively few people, that a practical question arises as to how far the municipal tax-supported library should go. I said a *practical* question, for there can hardly be a doubt as to the right of providing for higher education at public expense. We have in its favor the authoritative opinion of the fathers of the Republic, and of some of its greatest statesmen, from Washington to Edward Everett. We have precedent in the great state universities, which, under the fostering care of the state and by its support, are doing a wonderful educational work. But with the municipality it is not a question of theoretical right, but of ways and means. Our city libraries are usually supported by taxation, and receive only a small fraction of the amount levied for municipal purposes. In one city with whose work I am familiar, and which received rather a larger part of the levy than in most cities, this proportion of the municipal levy devoted to the library is about one and one-half per cent of the whole. This proportion seems small; but in the great pressure for improvements which are essential to the growth of the city, and for protection, and with a burden of taxation already heavy, it is not easy to see how any considerable increase can fairly be made in the levy for library purposes. This is the condition in most of our rapidly growing cities. And in most of them the demand for books to be used in connection with the school work, or of immediate value along the other lines I have indicated, is much greater than can be met. In this condition it is difficult for the public library to devote any con-

siderable part of its funds to the purchase of books for the use of advanced students; although it may recognize clearly the value of such work, and may see that it does ultimately yield benefits to the community.

The need of adequate housing for libraries, of buildings which shall be convenient and dignified and beautiful, and which shall be built amply enough to supply the wants of future generations, is being met by state and municipal appropriations and by magnificent private gifts. During the year ending July 1, 1901, about \$19,000,000 was given to the libraries of the United States, of which sum the larger part was given expressly for the erection of buildings. With this want supplied comes the need of larger collections of books; a need which, when it is fully understood, we may hope to see met by endowments for the definite purpose of supplying book funds. The building logically comes first; for, unless a library has a home which is commodious and convenient and reasonably secure from loss by fire, it cannot hope for any considerable addition to its collections by gifts. If it is fortunate enough to have a building which is not only ample and safe, but beautiful and dignified, its attraction for the donor is still greater. After the building is supplied, the most urgent need is for more books, for larger collections, both for the special student and for popular use. The noble gifts which have been made within the past few years give us reason to hope that when these needs of the library are understood, they will be met in the same generous way.

A study of the reports of our city libraries from year to year shows that the collections are not being increased as largely as is necessary to do the work which should be done, owing to lack of funds; and the testimony of librarians in public libraries generally will be that the demands upon their libraries are much greater than they can meet. An adequate supply of books is of no less importance than a noble building. And this is a perennial need; it cannot be met sufficiently by a single gift, but rather by vested funds which shall provide for additions regularly from year to year. Side by side with the name of him who provided the building will be the name of him who endows the institution with ample book funds, and thus continuously and cumulatively increases its educational power, its influence for social betterment, for generation after generation of readers in all the years to come.

WILLIAM H. BRETT.

MR. FRANCIS P. HARPER, New York, will have ready early this month Captain Hiram Martin Chittenden's "The American Fur Trade of the Far West: A History of the Pioneer Trading Posts and Early Fur Companies of the Missouri Valley and the Rocky Mountains and of the Overland Commerce with Santa Fe." This important original work is largely based upon unpublished records which are scattered in all parts of the United States, and forms a new and consecutive history of the Great West down to 1850.

COMMUNICATION.

WHAT THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION COULD DO
FOR LIBRARIANSHIP AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

There are three undertakings in the interest of scholarly users of libraries, and in the interest of librarians themselves, which seem to come directly within the scope of the Carnegie Institution.

The first of these is the establishment of a lending library for libraries, to consist of serial publications and other large and expensive works that an average library, and even a library of more than average size, could not obtain, but which might be needed in research work by some of its constituents. This would seem, in a way, to conflict with the expressed intention of the Librarian of Congress to do this very thing. But, for one thing, the claims on the Library of Congress in this respect would be very numerous, and would very often come from persons who would not use the books for purposes of pure research; further, there would be a not inconsiderable number of publications that the Library of Congress could not, for one reason or another, procure, but which the Carnegie Institution might regard as its duty to supply.

The greatest burden on the modern scientific investigator is the necessity of working out the bibliography of the subject on which he is to engage. It consumes valuable time that he could use to better purpose, and the bibliography which he ultimately does procure is usually of very inferior workmanship, for the reason that few scientific specialists are trained bibliographers. If the Carnegie Institution would establish a bibliographical department where the investigator could have his bibliographical material collected for him, it would be a great boon. Of course such a department would necessarily have among its officers and assistants men of scientific training, so that each topic could be assigned to a man who in some measure would combine the attainments of the bibliographer and the scientific specialist. The department should also engage on its own account in the preparation of special bibliographies which might be found to be particularly needed. By a judicious use of electrotypes and printed cards, duplication of work could be avoided, and every entry once made would serve all future purposes.

It would be particularly useful to the library world if the Carnegie Institution would offer facilities for post-graduate study of bibliography and library administration. There is at present no place in this country where the would-be librarian or bibliographer can fit himself, beyond an elementary stage, for his life work. The subjects of study which one wishing to prepare himself for bibliographical or library work would pursue are: 1, The literature of bibliography and librarianship; 2, The use and handling of books as literary tools; 3, Bibliographical methodology (i. e., methods of compilation and recording); 4, Comparative history of literature and science; 5, Classification of knowledge and of books; 6, History of libraries and library administration; 7, History of writing and printing, including the study of the methods of the mediæval scribes and the early printers.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

The John Crerar Library,
Chicago, January 22, 1902.

The New Books.

LIBRARY FIXTURES, ANCIENT AND
MEDIÆVAL.*

A few years ago the Registrar of Cambridge University, on being invited to deliver the Rede Lecture before that university, chose as his subject, "Libraries in the Mediæval and Renaissance Periods." The lecture was published and is doubtless familiar to many librarians. A much more elaborate and comprehensive work on the same general theme is now issued by the same writer. Not since the appearance of Gottlieb's "Mittelälterliche Bibliotheken" has there been offered to those interested in library history a book of equal importance in this special department. Indeed, in choosing his somewhat restricted province of research, the author has entered a field comparatively free from competitors, and his work has the merit of novelty to add to its more substantial excellences.

First to be treated is the library (or record-rooms) in the palace of Assur-bani-pal (Sardanapalus) at Nineveh, discovered by Layard in 1850. We are told that the books, or tablets, were devoted to history, law, science, magic, dogma, legend; that there was a special officer to take care of them; that they were arranged in series, with precautions for keeping the tablets of each series in their proper sequence; and that there was a general catalogue, and probably a class catalogue as well. This information is meagre, but interesting. Why, one is tempted to query, did not Mr. Clark go back to the older Babylonian libraries for a beginning? Of Sargon's library, at Agane, we know at least something. Its catalogue has been unearthed and shows that each tablet was numbered, so as to be called for by number rather than by title. Egyptian libraries do not detain our author long, nor does he so much as mention the library of King Osymandyas (Rameses I.) in the Ramesseum near Thebes, of which Diodorus Siculus tells us that it bore the apt inscription, "Dispensary of the Soul." Of the libraries at Alexandria — for there were two — next to nothing is known as to their housing and arrangement; so the writer passes on to Pergamon, and then to Greece and Rome. Information of the kind sought is scanty,

*THE CARE OF BOOKS. An Essay on the Development of Libraries and their Fittings, from the Earliest Times to the End of the Eighteenth Century. By John Willis Clark, M.A., F.S.A. Illustrated. New York: The Macmillan Co.

although the ancient authorities appear to have been most diligently ransacked. From the elder Pliny, from Strabo and Plutarch and Vitruvius, the following is gleaned concerning the famous library at Pergamon :

"These magnificent structures, which won for Pergamon the distinction of being 'by far the noblest city in Asia Minor,' were in the main due to Eumenes the Second, who, during his reign of nearly forty years (B. C. 197-59) was enabled, by the wise policy of supporting the Romans, to transform his petty state into a powerful monarchy. The construction of a library is especially referred to him by Strabo, and from the statement of Vitruvius that it was built for the delight of the world at large (*in communem delectationem*), we may infer that it was intended to be public. That he was an energetic book-collector, under whose direction a large staff of scribes was perpetually at work, may be gathered from the well-known story that his bibliographical rival at Alexandria, exasperated by his activity and success, conceived the ingenious device of crippling his endeavours by forbidding the exportation of papyrus. Eumenes, however, says the chronicler, was equal to the occasion, and defeated the scheme by inventing parchment. It is probable that Eumenes not only began but completed the library, for in less than a quarter of a century after his death (B. C. 133) the last of his descendants bequeathed the city and state of Pergamon to the Romans. It is improbable that they would do much to increase the library, though they evidently took care of it, for ninety years later, when Mark Antony is said to have given it to Cleopatra, the number of works in it amounted to two hundred thousand."

Classical allusions to collections of books in Greece are scanty and disappointing, merely proving the existence of such collections. Strabo, as cited by our author, preserves a tradition that Aristotle was the first to make a collection of books, and that he taught the kings of Egypt how to arrange a library. Hadrian's Stoa at Athens is the only ancient building in the nature of a library that we know of in that city. Its ground plan and Pausanias's brief allusion to it are given by Mr. Clark. But when we come to Rome we find more abundant material for study. No fewer than twenty-six public libraries are said to have flourished there, at one time or another, under the Empire, and earlier private collections are known to have existed. The public libraries first found shelter in temples. An interesting passage from Aulus Gellius is quoted, concerning the library at Tibur, which is seen to have been housed in the temple of Hercules. Seneca (*De Tranquillitate Animi*, ix.) is drawn upon for a paragraph throwing much light on the collection and care of books. He says :

"Forty thousand books were burnt at Alexandria. I leave others to praise this splendid monument of royal opulence, as for example Livy, who regards it as 'a noble work of royal taste and royal thoughtfulness.' It

was not taste, it was not thoughtfulness, it was learned extravagance — nay, not even learned, for they had bought their books for the sake of show, not for the sake of learning, — just as with many who are ignorant even of the lowest branches of learning books are not instruments of study, but ornaments of dining-rooms. Procure then as many books as will suffice for use; but not a single one for show. . . . Excess in all directions is bad. Why should you excuse a man who wishes to possess book-presses inlaid with *arbor-vite* wood or ivory; who gathers together masses of authors either unknown or discredited; who yawns among his thousands of books; and who derives his chief delight from their edges and their tickets? You will find then in the libraries of the most arrant idlers all that orators or historians have written — book-cases built up as high as the ceiling. Nowadays a library takes rank with a bathroom as a necessary ornament of a house. I could forgive such ideas, if they were due to extravagant desire for learning. As it is these productions of men whose genius we revere, paid for at a high price, with their portraits ranged in line above them, are got together to adorn and beautify a wall."

By far the greater part of Mr. Clark's book is devoted to mediæval libraries. Why he chose for his title-page "the end of the eighteenth century" as indicating the limit of his labors, is a little puzzling, since his volume closes with an account of the library of John Boys, Dean of Canterbury, who died in 1625, and very few references are made to a later period. The splendors of the Vatican Library receive due attention at his hands, both in text and in illustration. But it is in the occasional excursions to one side of the main theme that the general reader will find most of real human interest. Apropos of monastic libraries, we have the following, from St. Benedict's Rule :

"Idleness is the enemy of the soul; hence brethren ought, at certain seasons, to occupy themselves with manual labour, and again, at certain seasons, with holy reading. . . . Between Easter and the calends of October let them apply themselves to reading from the fourth hour till near the sixth hour. From the calends of October to the beginning of Lent let them apply themselves to reading till the second hour. . . . During Lent let them apply themselves to reading from morning till the end of the third hour . . . and, in these days of Lent, let them receive a book apiece from the library, and read it straight through. These books are to be given out at the beginning of Lent."

Thus it appears that monastic librarians, no less than public librarians of the present day, had their labors increased at the Lenten season. Monastic libraries were, in fact, the public libraries of the Middle Ages; and that no religious house was considered complete without its case of books is evident from the old epigram, "Claustrum sine armario, castrum sine armamentario." The chaining of books, the pledges exacted for their safe return when lent, and, quaintest of all, the elaborate curses in-

scribed, as a deterrent to book-thieves, in mediæval volumes, all bear witness to the high value put upon these literary treasures in an age when books were few and costly. Most readers will be surprised to learn that wall-shelves did not come into use, for libraries, until the sixteenth century; before that time the shelves were placed at right angles to the wall.

In this brief sketch scant justice can be done to the work under review. Its full treatment of ancient and mediæval library appliances, with copious photographic illustrations, can only be alluded to here. Abundant foot-notes serve the purpose of a bibliography, and a dozen pages of index close the volume. Our only disappointment is to find that, despite the somewhat comprehensive claims of title-page and prospectus, so many of the world-renowned libraries remain untouched upon by the author. Perhaps they were not deemed by him illustrative of his subject. The British Museum Library, the Bibliothèque Nationale, the national libraries at Florence and Naples and Madrid, the Imperial Public Library at St. Petersburg and that at Vienna, the royal libraries at Berlin and Munich and Brussels, the university libraries of Leyden, Utrecht, Louvain, Bologna,—all of these, and a dozen more that might be named, are shut out in the cold. But it would be both rash and ungracious to criticize the learned author's choice of material, after he has laboriously gleaned for us so rich a harvest of curious and valuable information from sources that are in many cases by no means easy of access. One hundred and fifty-six illustrations, including forty-three full-page plates, adorn the text; and the wide margins, clear print, and substantial binding, all contribute their share toward clothing a scholarly work in a becoming garb.

PERCY FAVOR BICKNELL.

THE VIGOROUS DR. SMOLLETT.*

Wilkie Collins late in his life (he died in 1889) declared that no publisher would dare risk a complete edition of Smollett or Sterne. He had in mind the coarseness of those eighteenth century writers. Yet here, not many years after, is a handsome complete edition of the former and perhaps more objectionable

author, in twelve volumes, of the large-paper, illustrated, sumptuous kind, and inclusive even of the odds and ends of the vigorous Dr. Smollett's works.

The appearance of such an edition seems to mean an interesting change in the public taste in English fiction. It indicates in the first place that, owing no doubt to the prevalence of much realistic writing of the plain-spoken sort, we are now more sympathetic to the coarse, more tolerant of the occasional foul, than we were, say, a quarter of a century ago. Again, there is in all probability more interest on the part of the public in fiction as such than was true earlier; the Novel to-day is more fiercely dominant than it was when Wilkie Collins died, only a dozen years ago. Hence this interest, acting retrospectively, includes a novelist of one hundred and fifty years ago like Smollett.

And yet again: the critical and scholarly attention paid to this typical modern form of literature has had its effect in drawing the general reader's attention to older work; and the fact that fiction is now studied commonly in college courses attracts to the eighteenth century men who founded and shaped the Novel attention at once earnest and intelligent. No doubt all these influences may be operative in making such a mercantile venture as a fine definitive edition of Smollett advisable, even profitable. I would in no wise imply by these reflections the slight importance of Tobias Smollett. He was vastly enjoyed as a story-teller in his day, as he was well-hated as a man; he is a by no means slender link in the evolution of English fiction; and, which is the main thing for the present-day reader, he can still be read in his best books with hearty relish. To be sure, both Richardson and Fielding are more important in the fictional development, coming earlier and being greater novelists. Yet it may well be questioned if, for handing on the story of episode and picaresque adventure — a branch of fiction now much in evidence in current story-making — Smollett is not more directly in the line of Cervantes, LeSage, and Defoe than even Fielding. There is, too, a certain benefit, in these days of extravagant statement regarding living and very new novel-writers, in looking back at the by-gone worthies in order to realize that, after all, brave men lived before Agamemnon: that superlatives steadily used lose their emphasis.

Nine of the dozen volumes comprising this new edition are taken up by Smollett's major

* THE WORKS OF TOBIAS SMOLLETT. With an Introduction by W. E. Henley. In twelve volumes. Illustrated in photogravure. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

stories : "Roderick Random," "Peregrine Pickle," "Ferdinand, Count Fathom," and "Humphrey Clinker." The generous type and large-paper form necessitates two volumes for each novel,—three in the case of "Pickle." To handle such books sets one on dreams of the good old leisurely days of the three-decker, when hurry was not in writer or reader. The remaining three volumes contain such minor things as the tale called "Sir Lancelot Greavés," the travels and miscellanies in verse and prose, only of value to the student who would trace the novelist's growth and decadence and have a fuller understanding of the man. Smollett's very bad dramas, here printed, bring a realization of how ill it fares with the cobbler who leaves his last.

The introduction is written by Mr. W. E. Henley, who is just now in the public eye because of his churlish, curious exhibition of bad taste in attempting to throw disillusionment upon his old-time fellow in life and literature, R. L. Stevenson. Trenchant critic and true poet Mr. Henley is, however; and this bit of criticism is in his familiar jerkily brilliant and bookish style. Those who expect a critic to show cause why he takes the trouble to bow some piece of literature into their presence, may perhaps wonder that Mr. Henley was selected to do this task; he is savage enough with Dr. Smollett, who is not to be numbered among his literary loves, and who, as a man, he exposes in all his weakness. But there is much to stimulate the student in what he says, and in the final summing-up full credit is given the eighteenth century story-teller's contribution to English fiction; especially does he praise him for his high spirits and vividness of character drawing (in which Dickens was later to imitate and surpass him). One of the most interesting things about Smollett, by the way, is the fact that he was confessedly a favorite with Charles Dickens, and that there is a certain resemblance of method and manner (*intervallo longo*) between the older man and his far greater successor. Mr. Henley, too, very properly compliments Smollett on his initiating truthful pictures of the British Navy,—a field afterwards cultivated with admirable results by Marryat; and quite as properly points out Smollett's lack of proportion and construction in his stories, his tendency to caricature, his absence of high ideals. He makes the story of his literary life dramatic by leading up to the best novel, "Humphrey Clinker," published the year of his death. "So passed the old

stark pagan," says Mr. Henley, with a sort of grim approval: in fact, one feels there must be some sympathy between the seamy, vigorous novelist and the poet who in the splendid lines beginning "Out of the Night that Covers Me," preaches a doctrine of agnostic stoicism.

In his relative placing of the novels, with "Humphrey Clinker" at their head, Mr. Henley's judgment is sound, and he pulls the second-rate work to pieces with a roughness such as Smollett was wont himself to use in regard of others. The critic speaks of his "stinks and nastinesses," of how in "The Adventures of an Atom" "he bemerded everything and everybody,"—until the reader at times wonders in which century Mr. Henley belongs,—the eighteenth or nineteenth. Truth to tell, this latter day writer is no more for squeamish stomachs than is the novelist he introduces.

Of the four main novels of Smollett, three,—"Roderick Random," "Peregrine Pickle," and "Humphrey Clinker,"—are still well-known and read. The fourth, "Sir Lancelot Greavés," Mr. Henley dispatches in a characteristic manner: "I have said nothing of it," he remarks, "for the simple reason that I find so little merit in it that I have no more to say,"—which is a good example of modern impressionist criticism, though accurate enough so far as the work in question is concerned. Of the other stories, "Roderick Random" is important because (like Dickens's "David Copperfield") it is more autobiographic than his other books, and has some telling portraits; "Peregrine Pickle" is a better novel, having less exaggeration, and on the whole more of unity—although disfigured by the episodic "Memoirs of a Lady of Quality." In these books and in "Clinker," the latter written when he was physically broken, such characters as Bowling and Bramble and Pipes have names of the conjuring kind—and, surely, a fictionist's power in permanent portraiture is what gives him a lasting place. In "Clinker," too, the usual faults are minimized. There is a "go" to the book, and indeed in the other two, a hearty participation of the author in the life depicted, that produces an answering effect upon the reader and is a mark of our elder fiction in contrast with the modern method, which places the author coldly outside of and aloof from his creations, it being deemed a sign of literary bad breeding to obtrude himself or show personal interest in his puppets. Which-ever way is best, few will fail to relish this

earlier hearty abandonment in the work. Of the diction of Smollett it should be said that he has the great gift of making his personages talk in character and exhibit themselves through dialogue rather than by description.

In comparing a novelist like Smollett with the best in English fiction to-day, the final thought, nevertheless, is likely to be—with all recognition of his talent and sturdy force—that the gains in both art and ethics have been substantial. The careless rough-and-tumble display of venality, profligacy, and brutality in these eighteenth century pages is all unconsciously a revelation of how far we have since advanced in decency, in refinement, in spiritual ideals. And quite as truly, the progress in the technique of novel-making since Smollett's time is a matter for satisfaction. No novelist of our day has more genius for fiction than had Henry Fielding; but all novelists of the first rank now will avoid Fielding's defects and those of his contemporaries: the carelessness of construction in the bringing in of loose, rambling episodic material; the failure to respect truth rather than theoretic effect of scene and character; the lapses from the clean, the frank catering to gutter tastes; the clumsiness in attempting to make dialectic or other variations from normal English speech. Yet, since life is more than art, those earlier novelists often have an effect of power, of reality, of the atmosphere that makes for illusion, that has not since been surpassed. And Smollett, in his obvious faults and equally obvious virtues, stands at Fielding's shoulder, a doughty lieutenant of that incomparable captain.

RICHARD BURTON.

RELIGION AND REVOLUTION.*

The substance of Mr. Sloane's new volume was delivered in a course of eight lectures before the Union Theological Seminary of New York. Considered as lectures before a distinctly professional body, interested primarily in the relations of church and state in a critical period of history, the point of view of the author would not require extended examination. But regarded as a scholarly analysis of the spiritual causes of the French Revolution,—and it is in this light that Mr. Sloane presents his expanded lectures to the public,—the novelty and ex-

treme statement of the thesis maintained by the author attract instant attention.

Mr. Sloane's thesis, as presented in his preface, is that historians have overestimated the political and social causes of the Revolution, and of the spasmodic progressions in that Revolution; that in considering the conditions which checked the normal course of reform, undue emphasis has been placed on national bankruptcy, secular feudalism, and the "mysterious, secret upheaval attributed to mental exaltation, of which so much has been suggested and hinted, but about which nothing is known." Later it is admitted in the body of the work that the interference of foreign powers was a potential factor in hurrying France into excesses, yet neither this nor all other causes combined equalled in intensity that "mightiest obstructive force . . . ecclesiastical fanaticism both positive and negative." In the character and organization of the church and in its artificial connection with the state, Mr. Sloane finds the conditions that most irritated the reformers of France. In the stubbornness of the higher clergy in clinging to lucrative abuses upon which they fattened, he discovers the main source of the fatal contentions of the National Assembly. In the struggle between the honest fanaticism of the lower clergy upon the one side, and the equally honest fanaticism of the theoretical reformers of church and faith upon the other, the author finds the crucial antagonisms which, developing into bitter hatred, wrecked the cause of moderate reform. In brief, questions of church and religion are depicted as causative to a greater degree than any other, both in the inception and in the progress of the French Revolution.

Mr. Sloane's work is a delight to the student of history for its scholarly method, its keen analysis, and its choice language. It carries with it the impression of thorough research, and of exact and painstaking intellectual honesty. It presents in more logical form than has hitherto been offered in English, the mental attitude of churchmen and reformers in France, and the incidents which made evident that attitude. Hence it is that anything approaching a criticism of the book as a whole is undertaken with extreme diffidence, for so masterly a work in general deserves only critical approbation. Nevertheless, if the author's thesis is rightly understood, it is impossible to accept without question the conclusions presented. Is it not possible that Mr. Sloane has elevated occasions into causes; and that, judging events uncon-

*THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND RELIGIOUS REFORM.
By William Milligan Sloane. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

sciously distorted, he may have misapprehended their true relation? It is no doubt true that immediately before 1789 questions of clerical privilege and of the badly adjusted relations of church and state formed a considerable part of the general topic of reform agitating the circles in which such affairs were being discussed. Yet these circles included but a small proportion of the people of France, for, as Mr. Sloane freely recognizes, the majority of Frenchmen were fairly well satisfied with existing church conditions. But even if we go so far as to admit that the National Assembly of 1789 ranked first in importance the renovation of the church by the curtailing of unjust privileges, it does not follow that the subsequent contests over religion and religious organization constituted the central essential struggle in the battle of factions, nor is that historical perspective necessarily correct which exhibits the violence and license of the Revolution as due to repeated conflicts between religious partisans.

It will be admitted that the French Revolution, however unique in many particulars, had this in common with all other revolutions or similar periods of public exaltation — that the Revolution itself became the God of the revolutionists. It was idealized, incarnated; it became the Great Cause without any true conception of the principles for which it stood, or the point to which it tended. When after 1789 it became evident that the hoped-for political and social millenium was not to be immediately realized, and that the Cause was in danger of failing in its objects, determined opposition, either secret or open, was immediately suspected, and the attempt made to remove the obstacle. Gradually the religion of revolution increased its hold upon the people, and the removal of obstacles to progress became more and more a matter of vengeance. After the flight of the Emigrés, the Church was the only existing body in France which stood for that most hated thing, the ancient Regime. When, therefore, hopes and expectations were frustrated, and prophecies of social and political betterment were unfulfilled, promoters and preachers of revolution sought a cause. It is not strange that they attributed failure to the secret opposition of the clergy. The result was a series of violent and embittered attacks upon the clergy and upon religion itself. This violence, displayed by each successive faction in control of the government of France up to 1795, was not, as Mr. Sloane maintains, caused by the stubborn opposition of clerics and people

to projects of reform, nor was the general violence of the Revolution due to that cause. The attack upon the Church and upon the Catholic religion was essentially due to the blind desire to find a scapegoat. The general and increasing tendency to violent methods was partly the result of the purely selfish machinations of politicians, partly an exhibition of that despairing fanaticism which dared any excess in the worship of its God — the Revolution. The clergy and the ancient faith were in truth bitterly assailed and unjustly charged with the failure of the radical programme. But do the debates and agitations over church and faith prove that questions of church organization, and of religious belief, were in themselves the vital causes of contentions? Is there not great reason to regard these contentions as exhibitions of the inherent violence of the party in power, which, seeking a scapegoat, found it in the Church, — the only remaining representative of the ancient monarchy.

If this view is correct, if the angry debates on religion, the rapid and startling changes in church organization and in faith, were less causes of excesses than occasions of them, then Mr. Sloane's proposition is not convincingly proved. In undertaking a specialized study for a limited audience and upon a limited topic, he has seemingly fallen into the specialist's error of over-estimating the importance of the particular subject investigated, at the expense of other and equally potent factors. Nevertheless, while it seems impossible to accept the extreme statements of the author of the causative position occupied by questions of religious reform after 1789, it is still but just to credit him with having proved that somewhat greater importance, than has been customary with historians, should be attached to the religious situation after that date.

• EPHRAIM D. ADAMS.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF BOOKS.*

In the early part of last year, the Librarian of Princeton University, Dr. Ernest C. Richardson, was invited to deliver before the New York State Library School, under the auspices of the Alumni, two lectures on the science and art of classification. These lectures proved so notable a contribution to the subject that their appearance in book form, with the added

* CLASSIFICATION, Theoretical and Practical. By Ernest Cushing Richardson. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

virtues of an Introduction and an Appendix containing an "Essay towards a Bibliographical History of Systems of Classification," is a matter for congratulation among library workers. Dr. Richardson's work not only reflects great credit upon himself as a high type of the scholarly librarian, but fully justifies the wisdom of the Alumni Association in instituting these valuable lectures.

It may be said at the outset that the book is in no sense elementary or technical, but presupposes on the part of the reader a fair acquaintance with practical library systems. Indeed, the first lecture, on "The Order of the Sciences," is sufficiently formidable even to the trained librarian, with its "mirroring of the outer cosmos," its "complex of ions," and so forth; yet with all its rather profound philosophical and theoretical character it does nevertheless present in a very sound scientific way the true order of the sciences, and should be of distinct value to the librarian as a theoretical basis of classification.

However, it is in the second lecture, devoted to "The Classification of Books," that the book reaches, in our opinion, its greatest interest and value. The subject is treated in a fascinating and stimulating manner which must arouse feelings of gratitude to the author in the mind of every thoughtful librarian, and cannot fail to be extremely helpful in creating a practical and at the same time scientific attitude toward the work of classification. The importance of classification to the library and to the reading world is given brief but adequate notice, and the "Decimal" and "Expansive" systems come in for their due share of praise. Dr. Richardson concludes his notice of these two systems with the following words, which may serve at the same time as a helpful stimulus to every librarian engaged in classificatory work. "As classification itself is the highest function of the librarian's work, calling into play every faculty and every attainment of knowledge,—the acme of bibliothecal work,—so these two systems of classification mark the high-water line of American library science, and are the climax of its achievement."

As an Appendix the author gives an excellent and fairly complete bibliography of classification systems from the time of Plato to the present day, in many cases including an outline of the system advocated.

Dr. Richardson's book should be hailed as a most welcome addition to the literature of library science. CLARENCE W. PERLEY.

AN "EVERYDAY LIFE" OF WASHINGTON.*

Mr. Norman Hapgood's life of Washington is sufficiently unlike all others of the many that have been written to warrant its publication. It may be called an every-day life of the first American, as distinguished from those that give only the dignified and the formal in his life. Yet it is not like the "true" lives that are so popular just now, for it does not confine itself to the trifles that are not worth preserving and to recounting the shortcomings of its subject and the charges that hostile venom may have concocted during the bitter struggles of that most bitter period of our national history. Mistakes and shortcomings are not passed over, even the trivial things that throw light upon Washington's character are not wanting; but these do not make up the whole story. They appear in the proportion of real life. This treatment distinguishes Mr. Hapgood's book, and gives it strength and interest.

It is not a political nor a military biography, though, of course, the military and the political sides of Washington's life are given in due proportion. But they are given in a general way; important battles are sometimes dismissed in a line, or are left unmentioned. Great policies are passed over, or get but a word. It is, rather, a setting forth of the personal life and character of the man to whom Americans have given the first place in their esteem, if not in their love, whom the whole world considers one of the consummate flowers of the Anglo-Saxon race. The formal Washington, the demi-god of the older biographies, is not here. The human element is made prominent, the tone being throughout sympathetic and appreciative. It is realistic and distinctly modern in manner, yet fair and well-balanced, giving the nobler side of the life and shattering no saine ideals of our national hero.

Perhaps the most valuable service rendered by the book is the opportunity it gives the reader to see the development in Washington's character. His childhood was ordinary; "not until the time for deeds does any touch of distinction appear."

"This poverty might be ascribed to chance, and to barren witnesses, were it not that, for many years after Washington became conspicuous in action, the accessible expressions of this personality were so bare that their interest depends wholly on his importance. . . . That his learning was small is not to be attributed to scant opportunity, since he never showed much hunger

* GEORGE WASHINGTON. By Norman Hapgood. Illustrated. New York: The Macmillan Co.

for books, and many famous men, who later surrounded and obeyed him, won more education against greater odds."

He seems to have had but a short boyhood and no free youth. At sixteen he was a public surveyor, enduring the hardships of that profession in the wilderness. At the same age, his journal, with the formal sentiments of a premature manhood, contains references to a "lowland beauty," confirming other indications of a later period that his heart was extremely susceptible to feminine charms. At nineteen he was made adjutant-general (with the rank of major) in one of the four military districts of Virginia, and at twenty he inherited Mount Vernon through the death of his brother. At twenty-one his public life began with his famous mission to warn the intruding French at Fort Duquesne, and the next year he fired the shot that was heard around the world and set a large part of it aflame with war.

During his earlier life, we find him displaying many human traits. He was insistent in demanding promotion, and not backward in informing those in authority of his services. He was a stickler for every point of "honor," and had to be tactfully managed to prevent his resignation. He was ready to make statements to the Indians that are charitably called "fictions" to get them to do as he wished. He was obstinate for his opinion; it was said by an associate, on one occasion, that "his behavior about the roads was noways like a soldier." He was sometimes ready to blame the other side for doing the very thing that he was trying to do. He was much fonder of giving advice than he was of taking it. All of this goes to show only that the great qualities had to grow in him as they have to grow in other great men. The young Washington was neither sage nor saint, though he was a remarkably forceful and efficient young man; the common ideal of him was realized only in his later life.

We think of Washington as a grave, stern man; he was this, except in the inner circle of friendship, and through most of his career a gloom seemed to rest upon him that was partly natural and partly caused by the almost impossible burdens that he was called upon to bear, which were made heavier by ill-health. If all Americans had been self-sacrificing patriots like himself, as we fondly used to think they were, the burdens of his military and of his civil life would have been comparatively light. But as a general, he had to work with soldiers that were untrained and without arms

or supplies, too many of whom were insubordinate and even cowardly; too many of his officers were incompetent, foisted upon the army through political intrigue, or cowardly or greedy. Officers intrigued against him; the soldiers abandoned the army in regiments at critical moments. The States were jealous of one another, and the Congress was incompetent. And as President, he had to suffer from the same popular vices, though they were differently manifested. It was through the fires of such trials that his patience was developed, his wisdom and tact were perfected, and all the lower forms of ambition were eliminated from his character. But who can wonder that his terrible responsibilities, together with the evils against which he had to contend, oppressed him and shadowed his life with gloom? He lacked the sense of humor that enabled Lincoln to throw off for a time even heavier burdens and preserve the elasticity of his mind.

Mr. Hapgood's judgments upon the character and work of Washington are sympathetic and sound, and we are tempted to quote some of them in conclusion of our notice.

"It was this combination of a passionate nature, including an aggressive, dominating will, with an intensely just and ethical spirit, that made it possible for him to have one of the rarest and greatest of his qualities — the unequalled dignity of his presence. . . . The eulogies of him are full of immortal tributes to the worth of blood and judgment well commingled. Perhaps it is largely because, although passionate, he was not passion's slave, that the world has worn him in its heart's core. With such a character, and without genius, he needed occasion to show his worth. . . . Without great events, Washington would not have been famous; and, on the other hand, he made events great by his ability in meeting them. It does not follow because a man is of the type that waits for occasions that he does less to mould history. . . . Goodness is universal rather than peculiar, and the greatness of Washington had its base in the power to be largely and impressively right. . . . Born to lead some of the most difficult movements of history, he saw only the things which were, and his life illustrates the sublimity that truth and strength may reach without beauty or imagination. . . . Washington's appeal has been great to the masses, because he was a hero; not less strong to the first minds of all nations, also because he was a hero, but different from the rest. It is to the merely clever that he must frequently seem dull. Those to whom Washington seems good but uninteresting perhaps need an argument that goodness and interest are inseparable; that large rightness is, maturely seen, the foremost human trait. With this moral justness in Washington went courage. . . . If Washington's name is as great as any in the annals of political history, it is because of deeds which the world values now even more than it did a hundred years ago. His was a noble nature, with a sanity, a balance, a power of endurance, seldom rivalled; but his glory is not mainly personal. It is not primarily the effulgence

of some rare and individual superiority. It is universal. It is the concentration in a man of those merits which are most needed in the rulers of mankind. It is the triumph of integrity, of patience, of courage, of loyalty in the service of his country. It is because he was with constancy for the right, and so powerful in its service, that he has such honor from the world. Only great talents could have accomplished what Washington accomplished; but no genius alone, however prodigious, could fill that place in the world's history which is held by Washington's clearness of view and unbending moral strength."

CHARLES H. COOPER.

RECENT AMERICAN FICTION.*

The "American Novel Series," which has occupied our attention upon several occasions during the past year, is now completed by the publication of "When Love Is Young," by Mr. Roy Rolfe Gilson, and "The Debatable Land," by Mr. Arthur Colton. There are an even dozen of the volumes altogether, one for every month of the year. Mr. Gilson's story is the tale of a boy's love affairs from ten to twenty-five. There are several of these affairs, from the childish entanglements of the village school to the serious passion which comes at the close. Robbie Dale offers some slight suggestion of Mr. Barrie's "Sentimental Tommy," but the story of his infantile affections is not thrilling. When he goes to the great city to earn his living, we hope for better things, and the episode of the innocent Bohemia into which he is plunged for a few months is prettily managed. After his charmer deserts him, he becomes melancholy, goes back to his village home, and there meets his fate in the person of a young woman who teaches music, plays Chopin most seductively, and sits on the front steps when the day's work is done. Robbie goes to her house one morning, helps her to wash the dishes,

* WHEN LOVE IS YOUNG. By Roy Rolfe Gilson. New York: Harper & Brothers.

THE DEBATABLE LAND. By Arthur Colton. New York: Harper & Brothers.

THE CAVALIER. By George W. Cable. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

CIRCUMSTANCE. By S. Weir Mitchell, M.D. New York: The Century Co.

DEBORAH. A Tale of the Times of Judas Maccabeus. By James M. Ludlow. New York: Fleming H. Revell Co.

GOD WILLS IT! A Tale of the First Crusade. By William Stearns Davis. New York: The Macmillan Co.

MARIETTA: A Maid of Venice. By F. Marion Crawford. New York: The Macmillan Co.

A PARFIT GENTIL KNIGHT. By Charlton Andrews. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

THE ROAD TO FRONTENAC. By Samuel Merwin. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

THE BACKWOODSMAN. By H. A. Stanley. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

THE RULING PASSION. Tales of Nature and Human Nature. By Henry van Dyke. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

UNDER THE SKYLIGHTS. By Henry B. Fuller. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

and is lost. We can at least recommend this book as suitable for Sunday school libraries. Just what it is doing in the "American Novel Series" remains a mystery.

"The Debatable Land" is an impressionistic story of the Civil War. The narrative is found in streaks, imbedded in a matrix of futile philosophical musings. The scene of the story is first placed in the neighborhood of Hamilton, New York, and then transferred to the Shenandoah Valley at the time of the Peninsular Campaign. The characters and their motives are throughout hinted at rather than defined, and most of the threads of the interest are dropped without being unravelled. The book is a very unsatisfactory performance, and brings the series to anything but a brilliant conclusion. Reviewing the series as a whole, we must say that it represents a good idea badly carried out. Such unevenness is not often found in a set of books that are intended to have some sort of uniform excellence. There are two really fine novels among the dozen, "Martin Brook," by the late Morgan Bates, and "Days Like These," by Mr. E. W. Townsend. Four others may be called tolerably good novels, but the rest have no reasonable excuse for existence. We judge that the publishers, having seen their way to give the series a fair start, trusted to luck for its completion. If so, it must be admitted that luck deserted them upon a number of occasions.

Mr. Cable's new novel, "The Cavalier," is a story of our Civil War as viewed from the standpoint of the Confederate soldier. The scene is laid in Mississippi, and the action is concerned with raids, skirmishes, and bushwhacking, rather than with the pitched battles and the larger aspects of the struggle. There is little of the war passion in its pages, and no rhetorical exploitation of the great issues of the struggle. The soldiers do their fighting as a matter of business, and the real interest of the story is private rather than public or historical. "The Cavalier" is not an easy book to read. Mr. Cable has always had the fault of supersubtlety, and never more noticeably than in this case. He rarely tells a story or exhibits a character in plain terms, and even the minor incidents are related by indirection. We are constantly puzzled to understand his argument, and to view his figures in the right light. If Mr. Cable were not so very charming a writer, this quality would be fatal; as it is, we find it exasperating, but are unwilling to miss the refined art and the delicate sensibility that are characteristic of his work.

"Circumstance," Dr. Weir Mitchell's new novel, seems somewhat dull in the opening chapters, and we expect from it little more than agreeable entertainment in the society of the respectable Philadelphians whom it presents to the view. But presently, and in spite of the essentially commonplace people who figure in its pages, we become conscious of a quickening of interest, which reaches a considerable degree of intensity as we approach the end. In the

adventuress and her scapegrace brother, whose conduct serves to relieve the good breeding and refinement of the other characters, we have two singularly effective examples of skilful delineative art; while the characters who represent respectability soon develop interesting individualities, owing to the analysis which gradually brings out the finer shadings of their thought and temperament. The adventuress is the chief figure in this drama of private interests, and she is almost worthy to be placed by the side of Becky Sharp, whom she resembles in her feline ways and her heartless selfishness, but from whom she is differentiated by the possession of criminal instincts. Dr. Mitchell is to be congratulated upon the sterling excellence of this novel, and upon the success with which he has handled his difficult material, creating a strictly legitimate interest which does not depend upon exaggeration or sensationalism for its effect. It is not a brilliant book, but brilliancy is an easy achievement as compared with the social insight of this novel.

Dr. James M. Ludlow, who won a deserved reputation about fifteen years ago with a historical novel of the days of Scanderbeg, has gone still farther back in history for the theme of his "Deborah," which is a romance of the time of Judas Maccabeus, and which deals with the revolt of that great leader against the oppressions of Antiochus Epiphanes. The conquest of the Greek by the Jew, and the triumphant occupation of Jerusalem by Judas and his followers, offers material for a highly-colored and effective story. Of this material Dr. Ludlow has made good use, and his portrayal of the Jewish champion is a masterly piece of characterization. His heroine and her Greek lover (who turns out in the end to be also of Jewish birth) are sympathetically-conceived figures, although we must say that the portraits of the heroine, which serve the book for illustrations, are too evidently photographs of a modern girl in masquerade costume to suggest the Deborah of the romance. Dr. Ludlow's diction, although inspired by biblical phraseology, now and then makes an unfortunate descent from the exalted level demanded by such a book, and becomes mere twentieth century American. Archaeological faithfulness is out of the question in any book of this sort, but a certain conventional artificiality is required for the purposes of the illusion, and from this the author too frequently lapses. Nevertheless, the story is a conscientious piece of workmanship, and fulfills most of the demands of romantic historical fiction.

Mr. William Stearns Davis is the author of a romance of the First Crusade, with the historical cry of the crusaders for its title. Except for "Count Robert of Paris," the author says, this most interesting of all the crusades has not been put into a novel. It seems strange that the opportunity has been neglected, yet we cannot from our recollection controvert the statement. "God Wills It!" may best be described by saying that it makes much the same sort of impression as do the Polish

historical romances of Mr. Sienkiewicz. The author has saturated himself in the history of the period, and has besides rich stores of imagination upon which to draw. Contrasting the book with Mr. Crawford's crusaders' story of a year or two ago, for example, we get some idea of its remarkable qualities. In the comparison, Mr. Crawford's book is pale while this is glowing, it is mechanical while this is living, it is grudging of its gifts while this is lavish in its largess. Most important of all, while Mr. Crawford's romance is little more than mildly exciting, this romance of Mr. Davis is thrilling throughout, and the effect is produced by legitimate means, not by any resort to sensationalism. These remarks are meant to be high praise, for such "God Wills It!" deserves. It spreads before us a magnificent panorama of both historical and human interest; it has for its background France, and Sicily, and the gorgeous East; it has for episodes the preaching of Peter, the siege of Antioch, and the capture of Jerusalem; it has for characters Godfrey, and Raymond and Tancred and Robert of Normandy. It is, moreover, historically just in its weighing of the forces—religious fanaticism, economic pressure, and personal valor—that determined the course and the consequences of the crusading movement.

Mr. Crawford's new novel, "Marietta," is something more than fiction. It is a tale of Venice in the fifteenth century, and makes us acquainted with the famous glass-makers, Angelo Beroviero and Zorzi Ballerini. Even the heroine, the daughter of Angelo, whom Zorzi wins despite paternal opposition and a contemplated alliance with a noble family, is a character of actual history. Still, the interest of the romance is essentially private, and the material is handled in Mr. Crawford's most charming manner. His knowledge of Italian life, both present and past, is so intimate that he is enabled to invest his figures with much vitality. That the book is one of invention coupled with observation, rather than one of mere manufacture, is the predominant impression that it makes upon us, which cannot be said, for example, of "Via Crucis," or certain others of Mr. Crawford's later writings.

Mr. Charlton Andrews is a new writer of historical romance, and his book with a Chaucerian title, "A Parfit Gentil Knight," is a highly creditable first production. Its scene is the French court of Charles IX. and the Queen-Mother, its historical setting is the strife between Catholics and Huguenots, culminating in the Massacre. The young Duke of Guise and the Prince of Anjou are among the chief characters introduced, and are about evenly matched as exemplars of villainy concealed beneath the courtly graces. The hero is a brave soldier, attached to the Prince of Montpensier, loving the princess with an unsullied devotion and finally giving his life for her. He is indeed "a verray parfit gentil knight," although his nobility of soul is possibly a trifle over-emphasized—in the Marquis of Posa fashion. Mr. Andrews has told an inter-

esting story, full of moving or exciting incident, and well-sustained as it leads up to its climax.

We said some few weeks ago that the Indian was coming back into American fiction. Two unusually good Indian stories with a historical background have recently been published, and give further evidence of the truth of our earlier statement. "The Road to Frontenac," by Mr. Samuel Merwin, is a straightforward story of new France at the close of the seventeenth century. The hero is a French officer sent from Quebec to Frontenac on an important mission, and incidentally charged with the escort of a young woman. The journey up the river provides a sufficiency of adventure to fill the book and keep its readers wide awake all the time. Mr. Merwin succeeds very well in his management of the picturesque and metaphorical language which, according to the accepted convention since the days of Cooper, was used by the Indians in their harangues. The main thing is to be sustained and consistent in its use, and in this the author has been successful. His hero is a very doughty person indeed, who can out-talk the most eloquent of the braves. As for the love-story, it may easily be imagined, since the circumstances of the expedition make it inevitable.

Mr. H. A. Stanley, in "The Backwoodsman," has told a story of the same Iroquois country, but the date is nearly a hundred years later, for the story is of the American Revolution. Its scenes and characters are curiously coincident with those used by Mr. Chambers in his "Cardigan," and the comparison is unfortunate, for Mr. Stanley's book cannot vie with that extraordinarily interesting romance. We have the Johnsons, and the Butlers, and Joseph Brant as conspicuous figures, while the hero is not unlike Cardigan in his fortunes, and in his relation to the historical happenings of the time. The story runs pretty well through the Revolutionary period, and Sullivan's devastation of the Iroquois country occupies a central place. Mr. Stanley's Indian talk is of two kinds. There is the formal kind, which is unconvincing, because it puts such words as these on the lips of the orator: "For peace, brothers, surely hath victories, — bloodless victories, victories that are not symbolized by the bloody scalp." The other kind is such talk as this, which we make no doubt is the kind of language that an Indian really used: "Captain Brant, him glad Quedar choke White Skunk. All Mohawks glad. Quedar brave lad. Senekees all thirsty. Want drink blood White Oneida." Mr. Stanley's manner of narration is rather stiff and prosaic, but he is evidently intimate with the history of his period, and knows the life of the Iroquois and the white ranger as nearly at first hand as one can know it after the lapse of a century.

The "tales of nature and human nature" which Dr. Henry van Dyke has brought together under the title of "The Ruling Passion," are eight in number. They are prefaced by a prayer, which is rather unusual for a work of fiction, but the pro-

fession of the author makes it seem natural, and the good sense of the petition quite justifies the departure from precedent. "Lord let me never tag a moral to a story, nor tell a story without a meaning." Not a few novelists might profit by this example. Ruskin once wrote in "Fors": "You might at first think that Dante's divisions were narrow and artificial in assigning each circle to one sin only, as if every man did not variously commit many. But it is always one sin, the favourite, which destroys souls. That conquered, all others fall with it; that victorious, all others follow with it." Conversely, we may say that one virtue saves souls, bringing the other virtues in its train. This is the essential thesis presented by Dr. van Dyke, and he exemplifies it by studies of ruling passions as varied as the angler's habit, the love of music, and the sacredness of a trust. The passion for justice is the theme of still another of these stories, and the hero is not a man, but a dog. The book is exquisitely written, expressive of tender sympathies and natural human feelings. Though the scenes and the characters are varied, "the subject is always the same, the unseen, mysterious, ruling passion weaving the stuff of human nature into patterns wherein the soul is imaged and revealed."

The gift of gentle satire, made evident by Mr. Henry Fuller's earlier novels, has been given its most effective display in "Under the Skylights," a collection of three stories bearing upon the conditions of artistic and literary life in Chicago. It is a book *à clef*, no doubt, yet the portraiture is rather typical than specific, and the traits of each character are combined by a sort of eclectic process. In "The Downfall of Abner Joyce," the type portrayed is that of the rugged genius from the country, who comes to town with the grim determination of reforming society from its very base, who believes in himself to an absurd extent, and whose earnestness offers a standing rebuke to all the graces and refinements of the polite world. He is an uncouth product of nature, and succumbs with difficulty to the taming process. His "downfall" consists in yielding to the blandishments of a young woman of the society that it is his function to denounce, and becomes complete when, as her submissive husband, he appears at a dinner in evening clothes, and partakes of the wine that is served at the table. In the story of "Dr. Gowdy and the Squash" the type is that of the rhetorical clergyman who talks magniloquently about art, and imposes himself upon his followers as an authority upon subjects of which he is profoundly ignorant. This particular kind of humbug has never been more mercilessly exposed than in the present instance. "Little O'Grady vs. the Grindstone," the third of Mr. Fuller's stories, relates to an artistic competition for the decoration of a bank building. Its teaching is that art has a poor enough chance when forced to assert its claims against the forces of social intrigue and commercial Philistinism. We have hesitated to give these ab-

stracts, or any abstracts, of Mr. Fuller's stories, because almost everything that is characteristic escapes in the process of condensation. An abstract of Heine's "Reisebilder" would be anything but adequate to convey a notion of the charm of that work, and for about the same reasons we must say that to read Mr. Fuller's book is the only way of finding out how thoroughly delightful a book it is.

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BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

Loiterings in literary fields.

That Mr. James B. Kenyon — himself a writer of graceful verse — is also an ardent admirer of others' achievements in poetry, is made abundantly evident by his little volume of literary sketches entitled "Loiterings in Old Fields" (Eaton & Mains). That these slight essays should contain any important contribution to literary criticism is perhaps too much to expect. At any rate, they seem likely to profit the young student of letters rather than the more mature. To the latter it brings a little shock of surprise to be detained, at the mention of George Henry Lewes's name, by the explanation that he "was a student of philosophy, the author of a few philosophical treatises, and the writer of a *Life of Goethe*;" and *apropos* of George Eliot's pen-name, to be thought in need of the following: "We know of but one other such instance of equal interest on record, and that is of a notable French woman who for many years sent forth her writings under the fictitious name of George Sand." Moreover, in the fugitive essay, which lays no claim to depth and substance, the reader is entitled to look for something like perfection of form; and it arouses a slight feeling of disappointment, if not of resentment, and an incipient distrust of the author's nicely of taste, to open the book and find *would* (p. 200) carelessly used for *should*, the impossible form *illy* (p. 122) usurping the place of the adverb *ill*, and "the tuneful *ilk*" (p. 138) chosen as a happy designation of poets as a class. *Sweetly* (p. 125) is made to serve as an adjective, perhaps by justifiable analogy; and, finally, a fondness for the split infinitive manifests itself. Dr. Kenyon's inclusion of "broad colloquialism" among the characteristics of George Eliot's prose style is misleading, his meaning probably being that she makes her characters speak the language most natural to them. Although by occasional references he shows his familiarity with Edward FitzGerald, he fails to include that rare genius either among the noted letter-writers of our day or in the list of famous men born in the *annus mirabilis*, 1809. But — to wind up, like the Hebrew prophet, with words of peace — we have nothing but good to say of the chapters on Keats, Rossetti, and William Morris; and it is no more than fair to close with a pregnant word from the essay on Lowell's letters, as a pleasant after-

taste: "The writer who is not greater than his writings is a kind of impostor, for he creates in the minds of others a false conception of himself."

The craft of bookbinding, and the care of Books. by Mr. Douglas Cockerell, with many drawings by

Mr. Noel Rooke, forms the initial volume of the "Artistic Crafts Series" (Appleton). In a general preface to the series, written by the editor, Mr. W. R. Lethaby, there is no mention of the further handicrafts to be given consideration, but the frequent mention of the name of William Morris leads one to conjecture that all the various trades which at one time or another engaged the attention of that well-nigh universal genius will be included, —these, of themselves, making a list fairly complete. The particular object of the series is disclosed by Mr. Lethaby in words which leave nothing unsaid.

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There are some excellent observations on the part which design should play in all good workmanship, it being the intention of the series to insist upon both as equally essential to the best results; but the crux of the matter is in the concluding sentence of the paragraph quoted. Mr. Cockerell, on his part, is explicit in describing, minutely and accurately, all the various processes which are used in bringing into existence a worthily bound book. He makes a nice distinction, which can be commended, between "binding" a book, meaning the envelopment of its back and sides in some permanent material, and "casing" a book, signifying its enclosure in boards covered with paper or cloth, for commercial purposes. With the latter procedure he is concerned no further than to point out the essential differences between the two; but he makes it clear at all times that modern bindings are in some instances without any element of permanency, and modern casings almost invariably so, — even to the extent of requiring the librarian to rebind his entire collection every few years. Mr. Cockerell's volume, describing as it does every process and tool connected with bookbinding, and containing much sensible advice on the care and preservation of books, is one that the librarian should not do without.

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Dutch life in town and country. One of the desirable results of the political situation of recent years is to make the American more than ever interested in what his fellow-citizens of the world — the citizens of other nations — think and do and feel. Our remoteness from most of the world-powers is apt to strengthen our indifference in this respect, and to induce in the popular mind a contempt for the foreigner that is not easily disguised. The series of volumes called "Our European Neighbours" (Putnam) is to be commended as a worthy undertaking which will do much to counteract this undesirable tendency. The volume on "Dutch Life in Town and Country" comes from the pen of Mr. P. M. Hough, who has long been a resident of The Hague, and has made good use of his opportunities. There is much of interest in the present-day life of this thrifty and sturdy people. From the country folk to the University professors, from the merchant to the professional classes, from laborer to courtier, the Dutch have developed a national life of their own, not to be confused with that of their neighbors. Their independence of spirit is a heritage that still is active in shaping their life in town and country. They form a nation well worth knowing; and Mr. Hough's volume offers the most convenient and interesting way of becoming acquainted with them, accessible to English readers. It is a sympathetic yet critical, a discerning and comprehensive account of life in modern Holland.

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"Intuitive Suggestion: A New Theory of the Evolution of Mind" (Longmans) offers an obvious though not an extreme case of this unfortunate malady. "Intuitive suggestion" is to him the key that unlocks all mystery. This means that the author of this book, after asking any of the fundamental questions relating to the constitution of the universe and of life, receives a satisfactory thrill when pronouncing the words "intuitive suggestion." He tells us that water must know intuitively when 32° Fahrenheit is reached in order that ice shall be formed; that the magnet has an intuitive feeling for the north pole; that the soaring of birds is far better explained by referring it to an intuitive knowledge of the laws of motion than to mechanical and physiological principles; that the chemical elements have an intuitive seeking for their affinities; and even that the land leeches of Ceylon do not smell but intuitively know the approach of their prey. That we are also taught that telepathy will in the future be the normal mode of communication; that, indeed, psychic force will outdo wireless telegraphy, and that suggestion will destroy noxious weeds and vermin,—all this seems of a piece with the theory of "intuitive suggestion." Such a volume is the inevitable result of the attempt to reason without the natural or acquired ability to distinguish between true explanations and those that merely counterfeit the explanatory process.

Pleasant gossip in a library.

That most delightful form of literary *causerie* which Mr. Edmund Gosse contrives to write with so much distinction is found nowhere in better exemplification than in his "Gossip in a Library" (Dodd, Mead & Co.), now republished with additional matter, after enjoying a healthy and successful existence through half a score of years. Originally written at the suggestion of an American editor for American readers, it has never lost the merit of an original method especially adapted to the hurried needs of American general culture. Its readers will recall that in substance it contains the briefest little discourses on books of all sorts and conditions, addressed by a collector of rare volumes to other collectors—or, at least, to those in sympathy with his aims. The original preface is rightly retained, with its wondering protest against the imposition, by a nation calling itself civilized, of an import duty on books worth having; an imposition the more marked, had Mr. Gosse chosen to speak of it, for permitting books in languages other than English to come in duty free. A new preface for this edition has been added, sufficiently brief and informing to deserve quotation in full. Says the essayist:

"It is with a great deal of pleasure that I learn that the passion for rare books still flourishes in America, and that a new edition of this little book is called for. In order to give it a certain character of freshness, I have added, for America only, an essay on a volume which grows steadily, and almost year by year, in value and interest. Perhaps the bibliographical data which I have given may prevent some ardent bib-

liophile from adding to his library an incomplete copy of White's 'Selborne,' a book which is particularly often offered in a mutilated or 'faked' condition."

This describes the difference between the former and the latter edition of "Gossip in a Library" with sufficient particularity, and it is pleasant to realize that no further changes have been made. The book is to be commended to all who love elegance and scholarship.

Essays in Philosophy.

Professor Howison has placed not only the special student of philosophy, but the general reader as well, under obligation to him for his essays on "The Limits of Evolution" and other subjects (Macmillan). Not that the treatment of these themes is popular,—on the contrary, it is strictly philosophic; but Professor Howison possesses the enthusiasm and mastery of style which are ordinarily absent from works of this kind. The purpose of the book, as stated by the author, is to illustrate "the metaphysical theory" which he calls "Personal Idealism." This theory he seeks to present "in its bearings on all the chief human concerns,—on knowledge, joy, and devotion; on Science, Art, and Religion." The paper which gives title to the book subjects the current doctrine of Evolution to a searching criticism which that doctrine preëminently calls for, and yet from which it in a measure revolts. It may yet present itself in its finality, not as an all-embracing theory of life and thought, but as having well-defined limits within which it is useful and valid. We can call special attention to the essay on the "Art-Principle as Represented in Poetry." This discussion of the significance of art, and the place of poetry in the order of the fine arts, will be found timely and instructive. The paper on "Human Immortality" places that *quæstio vexata* in a new and surprising light, and gives to the hope which mankind seems incapable of relinquishing a form that fortifies it against many of the serious assaults that are made upon it. The reader will find these papers everywhere stimulating and elevating; and whatever his views may be upon the final questions dividing philosophers and mankind at large, he will gain from these discussions new insights, new points of view, and helpful illuminations.

A record of book-prices in England.

An English reviewer has characterized Mr. Elliot Stock's "Book-Prices Current" as the "book-collector's Bible," and the phrase is altogether fitting. This work and its American companion are now indispensable items in the equipment of everyone who has to do with old books,—be he bookseller, librarian, or private collector. The fifteenth volume, compiled as usual by Mr. J. H. Slater, is at hand, and covers the English auction season from October, 1900, to July, 1901. Though containing fewer entries than its immediate predecessor, the new volume is rather more bulky; a fact which Mr. Slater attributes to the large number of very

rare or unusual items that came into the auction rooms during the season, and that call for full detailed description in this record. The English auction season of 1900-01 was unusually successful, the total amount realised on the 38,377 lots sold being something over \$650,000. The average price per lot, about \$17., is the highest on record. Oddly enough, one of the factors that Mr. Slater mentions as having to do with the general rise in the price of old books is the advent of the new century, "which, in imagination, has suddenly aged them by a hundred years."

Monuments of the Christian Church, 2d to 6th century. In preparing a work upon the "Monuments of the Early Church" for a series of "Handbooks of Archaeology and Antiquities" (Macmillan), the Rev. Walter Lowrie, M.A., has not contented himself with abstracting his material from the literature of the subject already in existence, but has given the results of entirely independent researches into such subjects as the Christian Cemeteries, Christian Architecture, Pictorial and Minor Arts, and Ecclesiastical Dress, from the second to the sixth century of the Christian era. He has also, by reason of his having lately been a Fellow of the American School of Classical Studies at Rome, been able to anticipate the publication of some important works by recent explorers in these fields. His book is therefore a valuable contribution to a knowledge of Ecclesiastical antiquities, at a time when the popular knowledge of that subject is undergoing revision by reason of the interesting facts being brought to light by the scientific investigations of men like Wilpert, Marucchi, De Fleury, Le Blant, Ficker, Holtzinger, Venturi, Professor Ramsey, and others. As an introduction to the subject of which it treats, the book is invaluable, especially in view of the exhaustive "Select Bibliography" which it furnishes. It is evident that the author exercised great self-restraint in keeping his treatment of the subject within the proportions of a handbook.

Two centuries of the Middle West. In "A Short History of the Mississippi Valley" (Houghton) Dr. James K. Hosmer has endeavored, in a small volume of a little over two hundred pages, to cover a vast range of both time and space. The book is very readable, both from the interest of the subject-matter and from the manner in which the interesting story is told; yet only a few points are selected from a great number that demand attention. Fifty pages are given to the Indians and the French; another fifty to the early pioneers and the Revolution; a third fifty carries the story on from the Ordinance of 1787 to Jackson's victory at New Orleans; fifty are devoted to the Civil War; and a brief chapter treats of the region at the close of the century. This outline will show the inadequacy of the book as a history of the region between the Alleghanies and the Rockies; but certain aspects of the history are admirably treated, and some lit-

tle-known worthies of Western history are brought to public attention. The book will be useful in a way, though one might wish that so skilful a writer had more fully covered the ground appropriated by his title.

Schouler's life of Hamilton. The life of Alexander Hamilton in the series of "Beacon Biographies" (Small, Maynard & Co.) has been written by Mr. James Schouler, whose work as historian showed him to be in sympathy with Jefferson, rather than with Hamilton, in the party conflicts that attended the establishment of our government. But this lack of partisan sympathy results in giving us a truer estimate of Hamilton than we can get from one who is blinded by the genius of the brilliant statesman, and few writers of more aristocratic principles have escaped this fascination. There is little of narrative in the book; the author devotes himself to the higher task of discussion, explanation, and judgment. He gives due praise for the fruitful labors of Hamilton in bringing about the adoption of the Constitution and in establishing the finances of the new nation. But he also sets forth clearly Hamilton's defects of temperament and opinion, his restless egotism, his aristocratic contempt for the common people, and his lack of ability as a political leader that nearly thwarted his wise plans and did wreck his party.

A compilation of the wisdom of the ages. Those who are interested in what men have thought and said in regard to the conduct of life, from the beginning of recorded history to the present time, will be grateful for the compilation made by Mr. J. N. Larned, entitled "A Multitude of Counsellors" (Houghton). The collection is a very complete and well-chosen one, giving, first, extracts from the "Egyptian Book of the Dead," following with selections from Marcus Aurelius, Erasmus, and many others more and less well known, and concluding with so modern a counsellor as Thoreau. In the conclusion of the introductory essay, Mr. Larned says of his work: "I end it with a deepened conviction that the knowledge of good and evil has been complete in the world from the beginning of history, and that mankind has had nothing to learn since but the application of it." The volume is appropriately supplied with a full index.

Essays of an Ex-Librarian. Users of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" and the "National Dictionary of Biography" know that articles signed by Richard Garnett usually contain all upon the subject that can be discovered by a man of sound judgment and discrimination who, as Curator of Printed Books in the British Museum, has had exceptional opportunities. Dr. Garnett has also written a good many introductions and magazine articles, and has published two or three volumes of poems. Aside from his poems, however, his collection of "Essays of an Ex-Librarian" (Dodd, Mead & Co.) is, if we mistake not, the first

volume entirely from his pen. The book contains a part of his output for the last fourteen years, and its subjects range from one "On Translating Homer" to one about "Shelley's Views on Art." In some of them, especially those on Moore, Matthew Arnold, and Emerson, the author shows unusual acuteness and ability to phrase elusive discriminations clearly.

BRIEFER MENTION.

The eight volumes of "Social England," edited by the late H. D. Traill, are to be reissued in six much larger volumes, revised under the editorship of Mr. J. S. Mann, and copiously illustrated in the instructive manner made familiar to us by the illustrated edition of Green's "Short History." The first volume of the new edition has already appeared from the press of the Messrs. Putnam, the American publishers, and makes us eager to see the others. The text of this work, as our readers know, is a sort of mosaic of chapters or paragraphs by eminent specialists; much of this matter has been revised for the new edition. The illustrations of this one volume are literally hundreds in number, and the list of them alone, with a few brief notes, fills over thirty large pages of the work.

The lover of Thoreau wishes, above all else, light on the personality of the man; but we cannot say that Mr. F. B. Sanborn in "The Personality of Thoreau" (Boston: Charles E. Goodspeed) is very illuminating. The sketch is extremely brief, and is mostly concerned with external characteristics and details,—as in accounts of Thoreau's house, relatives, and friends. Mr. Sanborn's remarks on Thoreau's imitation of Emerson are of interest. He sees great similarity, for instance, in the penmanship of the two, which can scarcely be discriminated, but he regards the imitation as wholly unconscious. Some light is thrown on the works of Thoreau, particularly the Journals, and on his life; but we have not the personal study we might expect from one who knew Thoreau so intimately. The volume, produced at the Merrymount Press of Boston, is a fine example of the printer's art. The facsimile reproductions of Thoreau's handwriting, and the beautiful photogravure illustration, lend it an additional attractiveness.

The Detroit meeting of the National Educational Association was the fortieth annual gathering of our chief American organization of teachers. The "Journal" of the meeting has now made its appearance, and comes to us, as usual, from Mr. Irwin Shepard, the efficient secretary of the Association. The proceedings of the Chicago meeting of the Department of Superintendence, held in February of last year, are also included in the present volume. Among its noteworthy features are the address of President James M. Green, Bishop Spalding's "Progress in Education," Mr. F. M. Crunden's "The School and the Library," Mr. George E. Vincent's "Social Science and the Curriculum," Mr. E. G. Cooley's "The Gospel of Work," and President Hadley's "Use and Control of Examinations." All the departments of educational activity are represented in the thousand and more pages of this volume, and no educator can fail to find somewhere between its covers something of peculiar personal interest and value to him.

NOTES.

The "Love Poems of John Suckling" are published by Mr. John Lane as a volume of the dainty "Lover's Library."

Mr. William R. Jenkins publishes "En Son Nom," which is no other than a French translation of Dr. Hale's "In His Name," made by Miss Mary Prince Sauveur.

"Neurological Technique," by Mr. Irving Hardesty, is a manual of laboratory practice in a difficult department of anatomy. It is published by the University of Chicago Press.

"Britain and the British Seas," by Mr. H. J. Mac- kinder, will be issued at once as the first volume in an important geographical library to be known as "Appleton's World Series."

"Mary Rich, Countess of Warwick, 1625-1678," by Miss Mary E. Palgrave, is a new volume in the series of "Saintly Lives," edited by Mr. R. F. Horton, and published by Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co.

Three more volumes of the "Temple Bible" (Lippincott) have appeared. Exodus is edited by Dr. A. R. S. Kennedy, Leviticus by Dr. J. A. Paterson, and the Gospels of Matthew and Mark by the Dean of Ely.

"The Bibliographer," a monthly magazine devoted to bibliography and rare book news, is soon to make its appearance, under the editorship of Mr. Paul Leicester Ford. Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co. are the publishers.

"Tales of Past Times" is a volume of "Temple Classics for Young People," published by the Macmillan Co. The tales are no other than those of Perrault, with "Beauty and the Beast" added because it belongs there.

"Four American Inventors," by Miss Frances M. Perry, is a book for young readers just published by the Werner School Book Co. Fulton, Whitney, Morse, and Mr. Edison are the respective subjects of the four stories.

The work on "Chinese Porcelain" completed by the late Cosmo Monkhouse just before his death, will be issued in this country by the A. Wessels Company. The volume will contain numerous colored plates and other illustrations.

To the series of "Modern Plays," of which the Charles H. Sergel Co. are the American publishers, there has just been added a volume which contains "The Revolt" and "The Escape" of Villiers de l'Isle Adam, both translated by Miss Theressa Barclay.

A reprint of Boker's tragedy of "Francesca da Rimini" is sent us by the Dramatic Publishing Co., Chicago. It is a good-looking volume, and will doubtless secure readers on account of the recent successful revival for acting purposes of this sterling tragedy.

The Messrs. Macmillan are publishing a new popular edition of Thackeray, with the original illustrations, and "The Newcomes" is the first volume to be issued. The use of thin paper brings the upwards of eight hundred pages into a volume that is not overswollen.

Messrs. L. C. Page & Co. publish a translation of "The King's Ring," by Zachris Topelius. This is all very well, but the publishers are greatly mistaken in supposing that they are publishing Topelius for the first time in America. Not only "The King's Ring," but the entire series of "The Surgeon's Stories" to which it belongs, has been before our public in an ad-

mirable translation for upwards of fifteen years, having been produced by the enterprise of Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co., and made widely familiar to English readers.

John Richard Green's "Oxford Studies," edited by Mrs. Green and Miss Norgate, is a new "Eversley" volume published by the Messrs. Macmillan. To the same always attractive series the two volumes of Professor Clifford's "Lectures and Essays" have also been added.

In connection with the New Sydenham Society, Messrs. P. Blakiston's Son & Co. announce the publication of "An Atlas of Clinical Medicine, Surgery, and Pathology," selected and arranged with the design to afford, in as complete a manner as possible, aids to diagnosis in all departments of practice.

A timely volume on Nicaragua will be published at an early date by Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co., under the title "Ocean to Ocean." It is written by Lieutenant James G. Walker, U. S. N., a son of Rear Admiral Walker who was in charge of the Nicaragua Survey of 1898. At the same time Messrs. McClurg will also issue a new edition of Mr. Henry I. Sheldon's "Notes on the Nicaragua Canal," uniform in style with Lieutenant Walker's book.

"The Land of Sunshine," under its new name of "Out West," continues to be what it has been hitherto, only "more so." Dominated by the vigorous personality of its editor, Mr. Charles F. Lummis, it preaches with no uncertain sound the doctrine of national righteousness. Its belief in the West as the only section of the country in which sound minds in sound bodies are possible is insisted upon with possibly too much of strenuousness; but the fierce diatribes of the editor against the crowded and effete East are to be taken as humorous affectations rather than as serious propositions. In its new form, the magazine is more profusely illustrated than ever. A fine poem by Miss Sharlot M. Hall emphasizes the new departure taken by Mr. Lummis and his associates.

We spoke the other day of the late William Ellery Channing as having constituted a link between our own age and the past. Our age has been linked to a still remoter past by the poet whose death must now be chronicled. Aubrey De Vere was born in 1814, and became a name in English poetry sixty years ago. Since then, upwards of a score of volumes in verse and prose have borne that name, and won for their writer an honorable place among English men of letters. A Wordsworthian in spirit, having also some affinities with Shelley, his poetry will richly repay examination. Fortunately, we have the volume of selections which Mr. G. E. Woodberry made eight years ago, representing the poet's work in its variety and at its best. We particularly recommend this book together with its sympathetic critical introduction. Aubrey De Vere's volume of personal "Recollections" will be remembered by many readers. Among many titles, the following may be named: "The Search after Proserpine," "The Legends of St. Patrick," "Alexander the Great," "Antar and Zara," "St. Thomas of Canterbury," and "The Foray of Queen Meave."

Just before the last number of THE DIAL was issued, but too late for mention upon that occasion, came the news of the death of Horace Elisha Scudder, at his home in Cambridge. Even at this late hour we must find a few words to say of a man who played an im-

portant part in the later development of American literature, and whose intellectual and moral qualities were of the finest type. Aside from the writing of his early books for children, Mr. Scudder's work was done so unobtrusively that his name was not familiar to a very large public. To be the editor of the "Atlantic Monthly," as Mr. Scudder was for a number of years, is not to be conspicuously in the public eye, but to those who know how to recognize real values, it is rather more of a distinction than to be President of the United States. Many a piece of Mr. Scudder's best work went into the magazine, and escaped recognition; many another piece of that work took the shape of editorial matter done for some book or new edition published by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., and few were the readers who knew to whom they were indebted. Fortunately for his fame Mr. Scudder's last years brought him the opportunity of doing one important piece of literary work on a large scale and in his own name. We refer, of course, to the biography of his old friend and neighbor, James Russell Lowell. The more we recur to this biography the more are we impressed with its judicious use of materials and its constructive excellence. For the sake of his literary memory, we are glad that Mr. Scudder has left us this *magnum opus*. His personal memory needs no such aid, as far as those who were privileged to know him are concerned. It is the memory of a scholar and a gentleman, of a clear intelligence and an engaging character.

TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS.

February, 1902.

Abbott, Dr. Lyman. H. W. Mabie. *World's Work*.
 Agriculture under Cloth. Arthur Goodrich. *World's Work*.
 America's Commercial Invasion. F. A. Vanderlip. *Scribner*.
 Anarchism, Treatment of. Henry Holt. *Review of Reviews*.
 Battle-ship, Launching a, from Congressional Ways. *No. Am.*
 Belgium's Art Crusade. C. M. Robinson. *Harper*.
 Better Half, The. Edward S. Thacher. *Harper*.
 Birds, Journeyings of. F. H. Knowlton. *Popular Science*.
 Black Belt, Theology versus Thrift in the. *Popular Science*.
 Browning in Venice. Katharine de Kay Bronson. *Century*.
 Butler, President, of Columbia. *Review of Reviews*.
 California Big Trees. R. T. Fisher. *World's Work*.
 Cathedral, Building of a. Roger Riordan. *Century*.
 Cathedral, Uses of a. Henry C. Potter. *Century*.
 Chicago's River-Harbor. Elliott Flower. *Century*.
 China, Settlement with. Mark B. Dunnell. *Forum*.
 Cleveland. William Allen White. *McCurt*.
 Cleveland, Best Governed City in the World. *World's Work*.
 College-Man as Leader. R. H. Thurston. *Popular Science*.
 College Presidency, Training for. F. P. Graves. *Forum*.
 College Professors and the Public. Blis Perry. *Atlantic*.
 Criminals, Reformation of. J. Franklin Fort. *Forum*.
 Cuba's New President. *Review of Reviews*.
 Dependent Children in Indiana, Care of. *Forum*.
 England, February in. Edward Thomas. *Atlantic*.
 Environment and Sex in Human Culture. *Popular Science*.
 Foreign Element in Our Population, Assimilation of. *Forum*.
 Frontier Gone at Last. Frank Norris. *World's Work*.
 Gauchero's Day's Work. William Balfin. *World's Work*.
 Goldsmith's Deserted Village. Austin Dobson. *Harper*.
 Grain-Buyers' Trust, A. C. H. Matson. *Review of Reviews*.
 Hugo, Victor, Fame of. George McL. Harper. *Atlantic*.
 Ice Jam, An April. Judson Grenell. *World's Work*.
 Industrial Peace, Conference for. O. S. Straus. *No. American*.
 Infancy, Strong Points of. E. S. Martin. *Harper*.
 Isthmian Ship-Canal, Proposed. W. H. Burr. *Scribner*.
 Japan's National Debt. Yasufumi Sawaki. *No. American*.
 Li Hung Chang. Gilbert Reid. *Forum*.

Lincoln and Kentucky. *Cicero T. Sutton. Century.*
 Lincoln's Official Habit. *Leslie J. Perry. Lippincott.*
 Lincoln's Rival. *William Garrott Brown. Atlantic.*
 Loph the Quail. *B. W. Evermann. Harper.*
 Mail, Carrying of, to Farthest North. *World's Work.*
 Man and the Upper Atmosphere. *R. Suring. Harper.*
 Man, Descent of. *L. M. Keasbey. Popular Science.*
 Marconi's Great Achievement. *R. S. Baker. McClure.*
 Marconi's Triumph. *George Iles. World's Work.*
 Militia Force of U. S. *J. D. Whipple. No. American.*
 Motor-Car Impressions. *Maurice Maeterlinck. Harper.*
 Mount Vernon, A Visit to a Century ago. *Century.*
 Music of Shakespeare's Time. *Sidney Lanier. Lippincott.*
 Music, Modern, Two Tendencies in. *D. G. Mason. Atlantic.*
 National Feeling, Growth of our. *A. T. Mahan. World's Work.*
 Negro Population, Expansion of. *Kelly Miller. Forum.*
 Newspaper with Many Functions. *B. Meiklejohn. World's W.*
 New York's Mayoralty Election. *E. M. Shepard. Atlantic.*
 Oklahoma and Indian Territory of Today. *Review of Reviews.*
 Olive Ranch, A Great American. *World's Work.*
 Opposition Wanted. *Alan P. Gilmour. Forum.*
 Panama Isthmus, Why not Own the? *North American.*
 Pan-American Union, Proposed. *A. de Yturbi. No. Am.*
 Peary, R. E., and his Projects. *R. S. Baker. McClure.*
 Philippines, Our Disposition of. *J. H. Parker. Forum.*
 Porto Rico, Establishment of Civil Government in. *No. Am.*
 Pose and Point of View. *Katharine Collins. Harper.*
 Princess Mathilde's Salon. *Victor du Bled. Century.*
 Pygmies of Great Congo Forest. *Sir H. H. Johnston. McClure.*
 Railroad Consolidation, Increasing. *M. G. Cunniff. World's W.*
 Rapallo and the Italian Riviera. *E. C. Peixotto. Harper.*
 Raphael. *John La Farge. McClure.*
 Reptiles, Winged. *S. W. Williston. Popular Science.*
 Reservoirs in Arid Regions, Govt. Construction of. *No. Am.*
 Roosevelt, President, Three Months of. *H. L. Nelson. Atlantic.*
 Schley Court, Errors in. *M. A. Teague. Forum.*
 Scientific Work in America, Discouraging Conditions of. *N. A. Senate.*
 Senate, Oligarchy of the. *Maurice Low. North American.*
 Shaw, Leslie Mortier. *Johnson Brigham. Review of Reviews.*
 Sinking Fund and Public Debt. *H. S. Bontell. Forum.*
 Smith, John, and American Nation. *K. P. Woods. Harper.*
 Stellar Evolution. *George E. Hale. Popular Science.*
 Strikes, Prevention of. *H. H. Lusk. World's Work.*
 Sullivan, Sir Arthur, Diary of. *Harper.*
 Teachers' Wages. *William McAndrew. World's Work.*
 Telegraphy, Wireless. *Carl Snyder. Review of Reviews.*
 Telephone Service, Co-operative. *Review of Reviews.*
 Telephone, Successors of the. *Waldon Fawcett. Harper.*
 Treasury Department and American Travellers. *No. Am.*
 Troubetzkoy, Paul, Sculptor. *William Jarvis. Scribner.*
 Turgenev, Ivan. *Charles Whibley. North American.*
 Turkish Situation, The. *Review of Reviews.*
 Universal Eminence. *Alfred C. Lane. Atlantic.*
 Wagner, Minna and Cosima. *Gustav Kobbé. No. American.*
 Washington City, Improvement of. *Charles Moore. Century.*
 Washington, City of Pictures. *F. E. Leupp. Scribner.*
 White City and Capital City. *D. H. Burnham. Century.*
 Whitman, Walt, Reminiscences of. *J. T. Trowbridge. Atlantic.*
 Young Man with Nothing but Brains. *T. A. De Weese. Forum.*

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[The following list, containing 63 titles, includes books received by THE DIAL since its last issue.]

GENERAL LITERATURE.

The Writings of "Colonel William Byrd of Westover in Virginia Esqr." Edited by John Spencer Bassett. Illus. in photogravure, 4to, gilt top, pp. 461. Doubleday, Page & Co. \$10. net.
 The Writings of James Madison: Comprising his Public Papers and his Private Correspondence, including Numerous Letters and Documents now for the First Time Printed. Edited by Gaillard Hunt. Vols. I. and II., 1769-1787. With photogravure portraits, large 8vo, gilt tops, uncut. G. P. Putnam's Sons. Per vol., \$5. net. (Sold only in sets.)

The Writings of James Monroe. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton. Vol. V., 1807-1816. Large 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 390. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$5. net. (Sold only in sets.)

Zulu Folk Tales. Recorded and translated by Frank Hamilton Cushing; with Introduction by J. W. Powell. Illus. large 8vo, uncut, pp. 474. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$3.50 net.
 The Art of Life. By R. de Maule de Clavière; trans. by George Herbert Ely. 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 342. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.75 net.
 Oxford Studies. By John Richard Green; edited by Mrs. J. R. Green and Miss K. Norgate. 12mo, uncut, pp. 302. "Everley Series." Macmillan Co. \$1.50.

Chapters on English Metre. By Joseph B. Mayor, M.A. Second edition, revised and enlarged; large 8vo, uncut, pp. 308. Macmillan Co. \$2.25 net.

Lectures and Essays. By the late William Kingdom Clifford, F.R.S.; edited by Leslie Stephen and Sir Frederick Pollock. In 2 vols., with portrait, 12mo, uncut. "Everley Series." Macmillan Co. \$3.

Letters of James Murray, Loyalist. Edited by Nina Moore Tiffany, assisted by Susan I. Lesley. Illus. large 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 324. Boston: For sale by W. B. Clarke Co. \$2.50 net.

What Is Shakespeare? An Introduction to the Great Plays. By L. A. Sherman. 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 414. Macmillan Co. \$1.50 net.

Shakespeare's Plots: A Study in Dramatic Construction. By William H. Fleming, A.M. 8vo, gilt top, pp. 467. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

Memorials of William Charles Lake, Dean of Durham, 1869-1894. Edited by his widow, Katharine Lake; with Preface by George Rawlinson. With photogravure portrait, large 8vo, uncut, pp. 342. Longmans, Green, & Co. \$5.50.

The Life of John Ancrem Winslow, Rear-Admiral United States Navy, Who Commanded the "Kearsarge" in her Action with the "Alabama." By John M. Elliott. With portrait, large 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 281. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.50 net.

Henry V., the Typical Medieval Hero. By Charles Lethbridge Kingsford, M.A. Illus., 12mo, pp. 418. "Heroes of the Nations." G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.35 net.

The Life of Charles Robinson, the First State Governor of Kansas. By Frank W. Blackmar, Ph.D. Illus., 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 438. Topeka: Crane & Co.

Schley and Santiago. By George Edward Graham. Illus., 12mo, gilt top, pp. 474. Chicago: W. B. Conkey Co. \$1.30.

HISTORY.

Social England: A Record of the Progress of the People. Edited by H. D. Traill, D.C.L., and J. S. Mann, M.A. Illustrated "King Edward" edition. Vol. I., From the Earliest Times to the Accession of Edward the First. Illus., 4to, gilt top, pp. 702. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$4.50 net.

Tales of the Spanish Main. By Mowbray Morris. Illus., 12mo, gilt edges, pp. 357. Macmillan Co. \$2.

History of Los Angeles City (The Herald's). By Charles Dwight Willard. Illus., 12mo, pp. 362. Los Angeles: Kingsley-Barnes & Neuner Co.

NEW EDITIONS OF STANDARD LITERATURE.

The Pilgrim's Progress. By John Bunyan; illus. by E. J. Sullivan. In 2 vols., 16mo, gilt tops. "Caxton Series." Charles Scribner's Sons. \$2.40 net.

The Newcomes. By William Makepeace Thackeray; illus. by Richard Doyle. 12mo, uncut, pp. 844. Macmillan Co. \$1.

En Son Nom: Pierre Valdo et les "Pauvres de Lyon." Par Edward Everett Hale; traduit avec l'autorisation de l'auteur par Mary Prince Sauvage. With portrait, 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 260. New York: Wm. R. Jenkins. \$1. The Zincall; or, An Account of the Gypsies of Spain. By George Borrow. 24mo, gilt top, pp. 493. "Pocket Library." John Lane. 75 cents.

BOOKS OF VERSE.

Christus Victor: A Student's Reverie. By Henry Nehemiah Dodge. Third edition; 18mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 186. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.25.

Songs and Other Fancies. By Henry D. Muir. 12mo, pp. 264. Chicago: Published by the author. \$1.

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